

# Labor Market Data

August 2004



**Prepared by  
Labor Market Information  
Department**

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August 2004  
Mississippi 5.8  
U.S. 5.4



## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

**AUGUST 2004**

(County Rankings)

1	Rankin	2.7	42	Tippah	6.9
2	Lamar	3.2	43	Copiah	6.9
3	DeSoto	3.3	44	Issaquena	7.0
4	Jones	3.4	45	Lawrence	7.0
5	Oktibbeha	3.7	46	Lowndes	7.1
6	Jackson	3.9	47	Humphreys	7.2
7	Pearl River	3.9	48	Attala	7.5
8	Harrison	4.0	49	Walthall	7.6
9	Madison	4.0	50	Choctaw	7.9
10	Hancock	4.0	51	Tunica	8.0
11	Pontotoc	4.0	52	Adams	8.0
12	Simpson	4.0	53	Kemper	8.0
13	Lafayette	4.2	54	Prentiss	8.2
14	Smith	4.2	55	Bolivar	8.4
15	Union	4.6	56	Winston	8.5
16	Amite	4.7	57	George	8.6
17	Newton	4.7	58	Sunflower	8.7
18	Covington	4.8	59	Franklin	8.7
19	Hinds	4.8	60	Webster	9.0
20	Forrest	5.1	61	Leflore	9.1
21	Scott	5.2	62	Marshall	9.3
22	Neshoba	5.2	63	Greene	9.3
23	Carroll	5.3	64	Wilkinson	9.9
24	Itawamba	5.4	65	Perry	10.0
25	Lee	5.5	66	Monroe	10.0
26	Warren	5.6	67	Yalobusha	10.4
27	Lincoln	5.6	68	Benton	11.1
28	Clarke	6.0	69	Coahoma	11.2
29	Leake	6.1	70	Panola	11.5
30	Lauderdale	6.1	71	Washington	11.5
31	Alcorn	6.2	72	Yazoo	11.7
32	Marion	6.3	73	Clay	12.0
33	Pike	6.3	74	Chickasaw	12.1
34	Stone	6.4	75	Jeff Davis	12.1
35	Tate	6.6	76	Tallahatchie	12.2
36	Wayne	6.6	77	Sharkey	12.2
37	Jasper	6.6	78	Claiborne	13.4
38	Calhoun	6.7	79	Noxubee	13.9
39	Tishomingo	6.7	80	Quitman	14.2
40	Grenada	6.8	81	Holmes	14.4
41	Montgomery	6.8	82	Jefferson	20.5

**Mississippi - 5.8**

## **LABOR FORCE HIGHLIGHTS**

The annual exodus of students from the summertime job market helped to improve labor force conditions across the state in August. The total civilian labor force declined by about 26,600 from July, including a drop of 22,100 employed persons and a decrease of 4,500 among the unemployed. The overall result was a drop of two-tenths of a point in the unadjusted unemployment rate from 6.0 to 5.8 percent. The new figure also compared favorably to the year ago rate of 6.2 percent. The number of Mississippians holding jobs also posted a gain of 14,100 over the year, while the number of jobless persons fell by 4,800. The monthly and annual changes were similar to national trends as the unadjusted U.S. jobless rate fell to 5.4 percent from the July figure of 5.7 percent and the year ago rate of 6.0 percent. When adjusted for seasonality, the state jobless rate remained unchanged from July at 5.9 percent, down from 6.3 one year ago. National adjusted rates were 5.4, 5.5 and 6.1 for the comparable months. Labor force conditions varied widely across the Magnolia State, with most county rates remaining at or just below the July figures. Eighteen counties posted double-digit rate of unemployment in August, topped by Jefferson at 20.5 percent and Holmes at 14.4 percent. Half a dozen counties recorded jobless rates of less than 4.0 percent, lead by Rankin at 2.7 percent at Lamar at 3.2 percent. If past trends hold true, September and October should see further improvements in labor force conditions as schools hit full employment and the agricultural harvest season begins in earnest.

## LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DATA

### State of Mississippi

Labor Force Data	August 2004*	July 2004	August 2003	2003 Annual Average	Moving** Average
Civilian Labor Force	1,314,600	1,341,200	1,305,300	1,312,100	1,315,400
Unemployed	76,600	81,100	81,400	83,100	73,200
Unemployment Rate (Unadjusted)	5.8	6.0	6.2	6.3	5.6
Unemployment Rate (Adjusted)	5.9	5.9	6.3	xxx	xxx
Employed	1,238,000	1,260,100	1,223,900	1,229,000	1,242,200

### United States

Labor Force Data	August 2004*	July 2004	August 2003	2003 Annual Average	Moving** Average
Civilian Labor Force	148,166,000	149,217,000	146,967,000	146,510,000	146,996,000
Unemployed	7,940,000	8,518,000	8,830,000	8,774,000	8,356,000
Unemployment Rate (Unadjusted)	5.4	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.7
Unemployment Rate (Adjusted)	5.4	5.5	6.1	xxx	xxx
Employed	140,226,000	140,700,000	138,137,000	137,736,000	138,640,000

### State of Mississippi

Unemployment Insurance Data @	August 2004*	July 2004	August 2003
Initial UI Claims	11,642	15,262	11,669
Continued Claims	112,465	112,010	110,699
Benefits Paid	\$14,478,992	\$14,319,414	\$15,065,148
Weeks Paid	87,418	86,308	89,988
First Payments	5,497	6,254	5,657
Final Payments	1,821	1,954	2,145
Average Weekly Benefit	\$165.63	\$165.91	\$167.41

\* Current month amounts are preliminary

\*\* Average for most recent twelve months, including current month

@ Unemployment Insurance amounts presented in this section only represent regular UI benefits, federal program amounts are not included.  
Definitions are provided on page 17

Labor force amounts are produced in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Labor Force Estimates

Place of residence - Persons 16 years of age and older

Area	Preliminary August 2004				Revised July 2004				Revised August 2003			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,314,600</b>	<b>1,238,000</b>	<b>76,600</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>1,341,200</b>	<b>1,260,100</b>	<b>81,100</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>1,305,300</b>	<b>1,223,900</b>	<b>81,400</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Biloxi Gulfport Pascagoula MSA</b>	177,090	170,130	6,960	3.9	181,670	174,100	7,570	4.2	173,000	165,070	7,930	4.6
<b>Hattiesburg MSA</b>	54,350	51,960	2,390	4.4	55,540	53,290	2,250	4.1	54,390	52,040	2,350	4.3
<b>Jackson MSA</b>	244,040	234,110	9,930	4.1	249,430	238,740	10,690	4.3	238,840	229,140	9,700	4.1
<b>United States (not seasonally adjusted)</b>	<b>148,166,000</b>	<b>140,226,000</b>	<b>7,940,000</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>149,217,000</b>	<b>140,700,000</b>	<b>8,518,000</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>146,967,000</b>	<b>138,137,000</b>	<b>8,830,000</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>United States (seasonally adjusted)</b>	<b>147,704,000</b>	<b>139,681,000</b>	<b>8,022,000</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>147,856,000</b>	<b>139,660,000</b>	<b>8,196,000</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>146,622,000</b>	<b>137,693,000</b>	<b>8,929,000</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Counties</b>												
<b>Adams</b>	13,300	12,240	1,060	8.0	13,820	12,660	1,160	8.4	14,040	12,440	1,600	11.4
<b>Alcorn</b>	14,700	13,790	910	6.2	15,210	14,280	930	6.1	14,990	13,960	1,030	6.9
<b>Amite</b>	5,290	5,040	250	4.7	5,410	5,130	280	5.2	5,360	4,990	370	6.9
<b>Attala</b>	8,690	8,040	650	7.5	8,870	8,180	690	7.8	9,570	8,850	720	7.5
<b>Benton</b>	2,880	2,560	320	11.1	2,920	2,620	300	10.3	2,880	2,520	360	12.5
<b>Bolivar</b>	17,170	15,720	1,450	8.4	17,370	15,990	1,380	7.9	16,760	15,390	1,370	8.2
<b>Calhoun</b>	5,980	5,580	400	6.7	5,920	5,540	380	6.4	6,080	5,570	510	8.4
<b>Carroll</b>	4,720	4,470	250	5.3	4,790	4,540	250	5.2	4,720	4,390	330	7.0
<b>Chickasaw</b>	7,130	6,270	860	12.1	7,170	6,360	810	11.3	7,180	6,300	880	12.3
<b>Choctaw</b>	3,160	2,910	250	7.9	3,280	3,000	280	8.5	3,350	2,920	430	12.8
<b>Claiborne</b>	2,680	2,320	360	13.4	2,870	2,470	400	13.9	2,860	2,490	370	12.9
<b>Clarke</b>	8,350	7,850	500	6.0	8,600	8,010	590	6.9	8,200	7,650	550	6.7
<b>Clay</b>	8,430	7,420	1,010	12.0	8,650	7,650	1,000	11.6	8,920	7,640	1,280	14.3
<b>Coahoma</b>	11,460	10,180	1,280	11.2	11,630	10,350	1,280	11.0	11,620	10,420	1,200	10.3
<b>Copiah</b>	11,950	11,120	830	6.9	11,980	11,050	930	7.8	11,750	10,960	790	6.7
<b>Covington</b>	9,410	8,960	450	4.8	9,530	9,110	420	4.4	8,860	8,430	430	4.9
<b>DeSoto</b>	64,310	62,200	2,110	3.3	65,350	63,240	2,110	3.2	63,630	61,440	2,190	3.4
<b>Forrest</b>	34,510	32,750	1,760	5.1	35,230	33,580	1,650	4.7	34,510	32,800	1,710	5.0
<b>Franklin</b>	2,760	2,520	240	8.7	2,790	2,550	240	8.6	2,840	2,560	280	9.9
<b>George</b>	10,350	9,460	890	8.6	10,740	9,690	1,050	9.8	10,100	8,850	1,250	12.4
<b>Greene</b>	5,570	5,050	520	9.3	5,650	5,090	560	9.9	5,710	5,140	570	10.0
<b>Grenada</b>	10,500	9,790	710	6.8	10,610	9,850	760	7.2	10,280	9,540	740	7.2
<b>Hancock</b>	19,260	18,490	770	4.0	19,670	18,930	740	3.8	18,690	17,940	750	4.0
<b>Harrison</b>	89,570	86,020	3,550	4.0	91,910	88,030	3,880	4.2	86,960	83,460	3,500	4.0
<b>Hinds</b>	134,440	127,960	6,480	4.8	137,550	130,490	7,060	5.1	131,540	125,250	6,290	4.8
<b>Holmes</b>	5,890	5,040	850	14.4	6,040	5,050	990	16.4	5,890	4,970	920	15.6
<b>Humphreys</b>	4,980	4,620	360	7.2	4,990	4,530	460	9.2	5,020	4,630	390	7.8
<b>Issaquena</b>	860	800	60	7.0	880	780	100	11.4	880	810	70	8.0
<b>Itawamba</b>	11,750	11,110	640	5.4	12,030	11,360	670	5.6	11,530	10,920	610	5.3
<b>Jackson</b>	68,260	65,620	2,640	3.9	70,100	67,150	2,950	4.2	67,340	63,660	3,680	5.5
<b>Jasper</b>	8,010	7,480	530	6.6	8,290	7,660	630	7.6	7,830	7,430	400	5.1
<b>Jefferson</b>	2,590	2,060	530	20.5	2,570	2,030	540	21.0	2,520	2,050	470	18.7
<b>Jeff Davis</b>	4,290	3,770	520	12.1	4,420	3,930	490	11.1	4,160	3,670	490	11.8
<b>Jones</b>	30,550	29,500	1,050	3.4	31,380	30,210	1,170	3.7	30,480	29,300	1,180	3.9
<b>Kemper</b>	4,260	3,920	340	8.0	4,480	4,000	480	10.7	4,190	3,820	370	8.8
<b>Lafayette</b>	18,040	17,280	760	4.2	17,890	17,110	780	4.4	18,000	17,120	880	4.9
<b>Lamar</b>	19,850	19,210	640	3.2	20,300	19,700	600	3.0	19,880	19,240	640	3.2
<b>Lauderdale</b>	34,940	32,810	2,130	6.1	35,660	33,470	2,190	6.1	34,130	31,960	2,170	6.4
<b>Lawrence</b>	5,010	4,660	350	7.0	5,110	4,760	350	6.8	4,740	4,370	370	7.8



# Labor Force Estimates

Place of residence - Persons 16 years of age and older

Area	Preliminary August 2004				Revised July 2004				Revised August 2003			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate
Leake	9,730	9,140	590	6.1	9,750	9,130	620	6.4	9,870	9,380	490	5.0
Lee	39,950	37,760	2,190	5.5	40,950	38,620	2,330	5.7	39,580	37,130	2,450	6.2
Leflore	15,670	14,250	1,420	9.1	15,850	14,460	1,390	8.8	15,850	14,000	1,850	11.7
Lincoln	13,920	13,140	780	5.6	14,200	13,310	890	6.3	13,960	13,210	750	5.4
Lowndes	25,360	23,550	1,810	7.1	26,180	24,300	1,880	7.2	25,610	23,360	2,250	8.8
Madison	40,890	39,260	1,630	4.0	41,880	40,040	1,840	4.4	39,790	38,430	1,360	3.4
Marion	10,950	10,260	690	6.3	11,060	10,330	730	6.6	10,710	10,080	630	5.9
Marshall	13,470	12,220	1,250	9.3	13,740	12,500	1,240	9.0	13,680	12,040	1,640	12.0
Monroe	16,050	14,450	1,600	10.0	16,770	14,370	2,400	14.3	15,780	14,020	1,760	11.2
Montgomery	5,280	4,920	360	6.8	5,330	4,960	370	6.9	5,270	4,800	470	8.9
Neshoba	18,080	17,140	940	5.2	18,530	17,550	980	5.3	17,450	16,750	700	4.0
Newton	8,430	8,030	400	4.7	8,470	8,020	450	5.3	8,310	7,920	390	4.7
Noxubee	4,330	3,730	600	13.9	4,450	3,850	600	13.5	4,170	3,700	470	11.3
Oktibbeha	20,550	19,790	760	3.7	20,820	20,050	770	3.7	22,800	21,940	860	3.8
Panola	13,010	11,520	1,490	11.5	13,290	11,730	1,560	11.7	13,170	11,600	1,570	11.9
Pearl River	21,780	20,930	850	3.9	22,310	21,380	930	4.2	21,190	20,360	830	3.9
Perry	4,320	3,890	430	10.0	4,410	3,980	430	9.8	4,150	3,740	410	9.9
Pike	16,560	15,510	1,050	6.3	16,880	15,800	1,080	6.4	16,410	15,370	1,040	6.3
Pontotoc	13,610	13,060	550	4.0	13,930	13,350	580	4.2	13,480	12,840	640	4.7
Prentiss	12,630	11,590	1,040	8.2	12,970	11,860	1,110	8.6	12,140	11,400	740	6.1
Quitman	3,670	3,150	520	14.2	3,640	3,100	540	14.8	3,610	3,160	450	12.5
Rankin	68,720	66,890	1,830	2.7	70,000	68,210	1,790	2.6	67,520	65,470	2,050	3.0
Scott	11,630	11,030	600	5.2	11,920	11,370	550	4.6	11,970	11,280	690	5.8
Sharkey	2,450	2,150	300	12.2	2,410	2,090	320	13.3	2,390	2,160	230	9.6
Simpson	11,120	10,670	450	4.0	11,460	11,000	460	4.0	10,940	10,390	550	5.0
Smith	6,130	5,870	260	4.2	6,060	5,770	290	4.8	6,030	5,790	240	4.0
Stone	5,500	5,150	350	6.4	5,640	5,250	390	6.9	5,500	5,120	380	6.9
Sunflower	9,930	9,070	860	8.7	10,120	9,230	890	8.8	10,250	9,310	940	9.2
Tallahatchie	6,090	5,350	740	12.2	6,040	5,270	770	12.7	6,140	5,280	860	14.0
Tate	10,520	9,830	690	6.6	10,720	10,010	710	6.6	10,370	9,630	740	7.1
Tippah	8,850	8,240	610	6.9	9,060	8,420	640	7.1	8,890	8,120	770	8.7
Tishomingo	8,600	8,020	580	6.7	8,620	8,010	610	7.1	8,830	8,120	710	8.0
Tunica	6,280	5,780	500	8.0	6,370	5,880	490	7.7	7,030	6,280	750	10.7
Union	12,960	12,360	600	4.6	13,230	12,640	590	4.5	12,760	12,150	610	4.8
Walthall	5,260	4,860	400	7.6	5,290	4,910	380	7.2	5,170	4,760	410	7.9
Warren	25,140	23,740	1,400	5.6	25,210	23,760	1,450	5.8	25,230	23,840	1,390	5.5
Washington	25,930	22,960	2,970	11.5	26,210	23,190	3,020	11.5	25,390	22,770	2,620	10.3
Wayne	7,740	7,230	510	6.6	7,840	7,270	570	7.3	8,120	7,520	600	7.4
Webster	2,680	2,440	240	9.0	2,730	2,480	250	9.2	2,820	2,450	370	13.1
Wilkinson	3,550	3,200	350	9.9	3,530	3,170	360	10.2	3,470	3,090	380	11.0
Winston	6,840	6,260	580	8.5	6,990	6,420	570	8.2	6,820	6,210	610	8.9
Yalobusha	5,080	4,550	530	10.4	5,070	4,500	570	11.2	5,060	4,480	580	11.5
Yazoo	9,690	8,560	1,130	11.7	9,720	8,500	1,220	12.6	9,660	8,660	1,000	10.4

# Labor Force Estimates

Place of residence - Persons 16 years of age and older

Area	Preliminary August 2004				Revised July 2004				Revised August 2003			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Number	Rate
<b>Workforce Investment Areas</b>												
Delta	128,110	115,060	13,050	10.2	129,630	116,190	13,440	10.4	128,720	115,170	13,550	10.5
Miss Partnership	362,330	339,720	22,610	6.2	369,460	345,530	23,930	6.5	364,470	339,170	25,300	6.9
Southcentral MS	372,870	353,750	19,120	5.1	380,270	359,840	20,430	5.4	367,800	348,330	19,470	5.3
Twin Districts	451,470	429,560	21,910	4.9	461,950	438,610	23,340	5.1	444,340	421,290	23,050	5.2
<b>Planning and Development Districts</b>												
Central Miss.	301,950	288,200	13,750	4.6	307,800	293,050	14,750	4.8	296,430	283,000	13,430	4.5
East Central	109,560	103,270	6,290	5.7	111,760	104,980	6,780	6.1	107,980	101,980	6,000	5.6
Golden Triangle	71,350	66,100	5,250	7.4	73,100	67,750	5,350	7.3	74,490	68,220	6,270	8.4
North Central	55,830	51,060	4,770	8.5	56,560	51,540	5,020	8.9	56,640	51,030	5,610	9.9
North Delta	115,340	108,010	7,330	6.4	117,040	109,580	7,460	6.4	115,570	107,810	7,760	6.7
Northeast	61,130	56,420	4,710	7.7	62,520	57,690	4,830	7.7	61,410	56,160	5,250	8.5
South Delta	61,320	55,320	6,000	9.8	61,980	55,810	6,170	10.0	60,690	55,070	5,620	9.3
Southern	341,910	326,290	15,620	4.6	350,190	333,630	16,560	4.7	336,360	319,310	17,050	5.1
Southwest	70,920	65,550	5,370	7.6	72,470	66,790	5,680	7.8	71,370	65,330	6,040	8.5
Three Rivers	125,470	117,870	7,600	6.1	127,890	119,350	8,540	6.7	124,390	116,050	8,340	6.7
<b>Community College Districts</b>												
Copiah-Lincoln	60,650	56,410	4,240	7.0	61,930	57,360	4,570	7.4	60,790	55,980	4,810	7.9
East Central	54,710	51,600	3,110	5.7	55,660	52,490	3,170	5.7	54,420	51,540	2,880	5.3
East Miss.	97,870	91,220	6,650	6.8	100,240	93,320	6,920	6.9	99,820	92,420	7,400	7.4
Gulf Coast	173,680	166,250	7,430	4.3	178,390	170,120	8,270	4.6	169,900	161,090	8,810	5.2
Hinds-Utica	230,980	220,910	10,070	4.4	235,630	224,930	10,700	4.5	227,150	217,050	10,100	4.4
Holmes	91,500	85,430	6,070	6.6	93,250	86,600	6,650	7.1	91,350	85,010	6,340	6.9
Itawamba	88,490	82,650	5,840	6.6	90,850	84,060	6,790	7.5	87,550	81,210	6,340	7.2
Jones	80,080	75,830	4,250	5.3	81,760	77,100	4,660	5.7	79,380	75,000	4,380	5.5
Miss. Delta	88,450	79,750	8,700	9.8	89,460	80,620	8,840	9.9	88,160	79,490	8,670	9.8
Northeast	57,740	54,000	3,740	6.5	59,090	55,210	3,880	6.6	57,610	53,750	3,860	6.7
Northwest	149,330	140,020	9,310	6.2	150,950	141,500	9,450	6.3	149,650	139,120	10,530	7.0
Pearl River	110,640	105,410	5,230	4.7	112,990	107,850	5,140	4.5	109,140	104,090	5,050	4.6
Southwest	30,660	28,610	2,050	6.7	31,110	29,010	2,100	6.8	30,410	28,210	2,200	7.2
<b>Cities</b>												
Biloxi	19,720	18,750	970	4.9	20,290	19,180	1,110	5.5	19,090	18,190	900	4.7
Clinton	8,420	8,220	200	2.4	8,610	8,390	220	2.6	8,250	8,050	200	2.4
Columbus	10,700	9,430	1,270	11.9	11,030	9,730	1,300	11.8	10,890	9,350	1,540	14.1
Greenville	17,430	15,430	2,000	11.5	17,580	15,590	1,990	11.3	17,060	15,310	1,750	10.3
Gulfport	34,490	33,050	1,440	4.2	35,410	33,820	1,590	4.5	33,580	32,060	1,520	4.5
Hattiesburg	21,480	20,150	1,330	6.2	21,930	20,670	1,260	5.7	21,510	20,190	1,320	6.1
Hattiesburg 1/	18,240	17,010	1,230	6.7	18,610	17,440	1,170	6.3	18,250	17,030	1,220	6.7
Hattiesburg 2/	3,240	3,150	90	2.8	3,310	3,230	80	2.4	3,250	3,150	100	3.1
Jackson	103,270	97,710	5,560	5.4	105,720	99,650	6,070	5.7	101,030	95,640	5,390	5.3
Meridian	17,160	15,890	1,270	7.4	17,440	16,200	1,240	7.1	16,820	15,470	1,350	8.0
Moss Point	9,520	8,800	720	7.6	9,800	9,000	800	8.2	9,530	8,530	1,000	10.5
Pascagoula	13,550	13,010	540	4.0	13,880	13,310	570	4.1	13,480	12,620	860	6.4
Pearl	21,390	20,950	440	2.1	21,800	21,370	430	2.0	21,000	20,510	490	2.3
Southaven	18,990	18,490	500	2.6	19,300	18,790	510	2.6	18,780	18,260	520	2.8
Tupelo	18,540	17,590	950	5.1	18,910	17,990	920	4.9	18,330	17,300	1,030	5.6
Vicksburg	12,300	11,440	860	7.0	12,360	11,450	910	7.4	12,400	11,490	910	7.3

Hattiesburg 1/ - Forrest County part  
Hattiesburg 2/ - Lamar County part

*Twelve Month Moving Averages  
As of August 2004*

Area					Area				
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment			Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment	
			Number	Rate				Number	Rate
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,315,400</b>	<b>1,242,200</b>	<b>73,200</b>	<b>5.6</b>	Kemper	4,310	3,940	370	8.6
Biloxi Gulfport					Lafayette	17,820	17,150	670	3.8
Pascagoula MSA	177,030	169,710	7,320	4.1	Lamar	20,330	19,780	550	2.7
Hattiesburg MSA	55,600	53,500	2,100	3.8	Lauderdale	35,040	32,960	2,080	5.9
Jackson MSA	242,740	233,470	9,270	3.8	Lawrence	4,960	4,670	290	5.8
<b>United States</b>	<b>146,996,000</b>	<b>138,640,000</b>	<b>8,356,000</b>	<b>5.7</b>	Leake	9,680	9,220	460	4.8
(not seasonally adjusted)					Lee	39,670	37,710	1,960	4.9
<b>Counties</b>					Leflore	15,700	14,190	1,510	9.6
Adams	13,640	12,470	1,170	8.6	Lincoln	14,070	13,350	720	5.1
Alcorn	14,890	13,950	940	6.3	Lowndes	25,570	23,800	1,770	6.9
Amite	5,360	5,040	320	6.0	Madison	40,730	39,150	1,580	3.9
Attala	8,670	8,080	590	6.8	Marion	10,820	10,220	600	5.5
Benton	2,870	2,610	260	9.1	Marshall	13,680	12,420	1,260	9.2
Bolivar	17,100	15,770	1,330	7.8	Monroe	15,590	14,130	1,460	9.4
Calhoun	5,970	5,540	430	7.2	Montgomery	5,250	4,890	360	6.9
Carroll	4,690	4,450	240	5.1	Neshoba	17,780	17,030	750	4.2
Chickasaw	7,090	6,400	690	9.7	Newton	8,310	7,940	370	4.5
Choctaw	3,270	2,950	320	9.8	Noxubee	4,270	3,770	500	11.7
Claiborne	2,980	2,600	380	12.8	Oktibbeha	22,250	21,440	810	3.6
Clarke	8,470	7,890	580	6.8	Panola	13,140	11,580	1,560	11.9
Clay	8,630	7,660	970	11.2	Pearl River	21,700	20,870	830	3.8
Coahoma	11,590	10,450	1,140	9.8	Perry	4,140	3,800	340	8.2
Copiah	11,910	11,130	780	6.5	Pike	16,430	15,530	900	5.5
Covington	9,190	8,800	390	4.2	Pontotoc	13,620	13,040	580	4.3
DeSoto	64,870	62,820	2,050	3.2	Prentiss	12,380	11,570	810	6.5
Forrest	35,270	33,720	1,550	4.4	Quitman	3,570	3,080	490	13.7
Franklin	2,740	2,510	230	8.4	Rankin	68,520	66,710	1,810	2.6
George	9,960	9,110	850	8.5	Scott	11,970	11,450	520	4.3
Greene	5,610	5,140	470	8.4	Sharkey	2,370	2,030	340	14.3
Grenada	10,290	9,720	570	5.5	Simpson	11,210	10,750	460	4.1
Hancock	19,180	18,450	730	3.8	Smith	5,880	5,630	250	4.3
Harrison	89,420	85,810	3,610	4.0	Stone	5,530	5,220	310	5.6
Hinds	133,500	127,610	5,890	4.4	Sunflower	10,100	9,190	910	9.0
Holmes	5,930	5,110	820	13.8	Tallahatchie	6,140	5,370	770	12.5
Humphreys	4,890	4,430	460	9.4	Tate	10,400	9,720	680	6.5
Issaquena	860	760	100	11.6	Tippah	9,030	8,370	660	7.3
Itawamba	11,600	11,090	510	4.4	Tishomingo	8,520	7,910	610	7.2
Jackson	68,440	65,460	2,980	4.4	Tunica	6,490	5,860	630	9.7
Jasper	8,060	7,510	550	6.8	Union	12,950	12,340	610	4.7
Jefferson	2,490	2,050	440	17.7	Walthall	5,120	4,810	310	6.1
Jeff Davis	4,210	3,810	400	9.5	Warren	25,140	23,860	1,280	5.1
Jones	30,640	29,620	1,020	3.3	Washington	25,550	22,840	2,710	10.6
					Wayne	8,050	7,470	580	7.2
					Webster	2,740	2,460	280	10.2
					Wilkinson	3,480	3,150	330	9.5
					Winston	6,850	6,300	550	8.0
					Yalobusha	5,110	4,580	530	10.4
					Yazoo	9,360	8,540	820	8.8

# *Twelve Month Moving Averages* *As of August 2004*

Area				
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment	
			Number	Rate
<b>Workforce Investment Areas</b>				
Delta	128,120	115,110	13,010	10.2
Miss Partnership	363,850	342,420	21,430	5.9
Southcentral MS	371,640	353,930	17,710	4.8
Twin Districts	451,990	430,850	21,140	4.7
<b>Planning and Development Districts</b>				
Central Miss.	300,370	287,750	12,620	4.2
East Central	109,500	103,570	5,930	5.4
Golden Triangle	73,580	68,380	5,200	7.1
North Central	55,640	51,020	4,620	8.3
North Delta	116,200	108,880	7,320	6.3
Northeast	61,370	56,830	4,540	7.4
South Delta	60,870	55,020	5,850	9.6
Southern	342,490	327,280	15,210	4.4
Southwest	71,270	66,180	5,090	7.1
Three Rivers	124,310	117,400	6,910	5.6
<b>Community College Districts</b>				
Copiah-Lincoln	61,020	56,930	4,090	6.7
East Central	54,590	51,940	2,650	4.9
East Miss.	100,070	93,570	6,500	6.5
Gulf Coast	173,350	165,600	7,750	4.5
Hinds-Utica	230,140	220,780	9,360	4.1
Holmes	90,930	85,350	5,580	6.1
Itawamba	87,570	82,370	5,200	5.9
Jones	80,040	75,860	4,180	5.2
Miss. Delta	88,160	79,660	8,500	9.6
Northeast	57,770	54,140	3,630	6.3
Northwest	150,060	140,730	9,330	6.2
Pearl River	111,510	106,850	4,660	4.2
Southwest	30,390	28,530	1,860	6.1
<b>Cities</b>				
Biloxi	19,750	18,700	1,050	5.3
Clinton	8,390	8,200	190	2.3
Columbus	10,740	9,530	1,210	11.3
Greenville	17,010	15,360	1,650	9.7
Gulfport	34,450	32,970	1,480	4.3
Hattiesburg	21,930	20,750	1,180	5.4
Hattiesburg 1/	18,610	17,510	1,100	5.9
Hattiesburg 2/	3,320	3,240	80	2.4
Jackson	102,510	97,450	5,060	4.9
Meridian	17,220	15,960	1,260	7.3
Moss Point	9,580	8,770	810	8.5
Pascagoula	13,600	12,980	620	4.6
Pearl	21,340	20,900	440	2.1
Southaven	19,150	18,670	480	2.5
Tupelo	18,370	17,570	800	4.4
Vicksburg	12,300	11,500	800	6.5

Hattiesburg 1/ - Forrest County part  
Hattiesburg 2/ - Lamar County part

*Five Year Comparison of Unemployment Rates*  
As of August  
2004

Area	Current month August 2004	ONE Year Ago August 2003	TWO Years Ago August 2002	THREE Years Ago August 2001	FOUR Years Ago August 2000	FIVE Years Ago August 1999
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Biloxi Gulfport Pascagoula MSA	3.9	4.6	5.2	4.2	4.5	3.9
Hattiesburg MSA	4.4	4.3	4.9	3.4	4.1	3.4
Jackson MSA	4.1	4.1	4.4	3.4	4.2	3.8
<b>United States</b> (not seasonally adjusted)	<b>5.7</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>United States</b> (seasonally adjusted)	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Counties</b>						
<b>Adams</b>	8.0	11.4	7.5	7.3	7.7	9.4
<b>Alcorn</b>	6.2	6.9	7.5	5.8	4.9	5.6
<b>Amite</b>	4.7	6.9	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.3
<b>Attala</b>	7.5	7.5	7.1	7.6	9.0	9.1
<b>Benton</b>	11.1	12.5	17.7	7.2	7.4	6.8
<b>Bolivar</b>	8.4	8.2	12.5	8.1	7.7	7.3
<b>Calhoun</b>	6.7	8.4	9.4	11.2	6.0	4.1
<b>Carroll</b>	5.3	7.0	8.4	6.9	7.6	5.0
<b>Chickasaw</b>	12.1	12.3	13.5	17.5	7.6	7.3
<b>Choctaw</b>	7.9	12.8	17.9	9.3	9.9	7.0
<b>Claiborne</b>	13.4	12.9	13.3	8.3	11.0	10.8
<b>Clarke</b>	6.0	6.7	19.2	8.9	9.8	6.9
<b>Clay</b>	12.0	14.3	13.4	10.9	8.9	9.6
<b>Coahoma</b>	11.2	10.3	10.9	9.2	9.4	8.2
<b>Copiah</b>	6.9	6.7	7.9	6.0	8.0	9.3
<b>Covington</b>	4.8	4.9	4.5	4.7	4.9	6.1
<b>DeSoto</b>	3.3	3.4	3.6	2.6	2.9	2.8
<b>Forrest</b>	5.1	5.0	5.8	4.0	4.6	3.8
<b>Franklin</b>	8.7	9.9	9.7	7.7	7.3	9.7
<b>George</b>	8.6	12.4	9.9	10.8	9.3	8.7
<b>Greene</b>	9.3	10.0	8.9	9.1	11.5	7.9
<b>Grenada</b>	6.8	7.2	6.3	6.8	7.0	6.3
<b>Hancock</b>	4.0	4.0	5.0	3.3	3.9	4.5
<b>Harrison</b>	4.0	4.0	4.7	3.3	4.4	3.8
<b>Hinds</b>	4.8	4.8	5.2	4.1	5.1	4.7
<b>Holmes</b>	14.4	15.6	16.4	18.1	22.3	23.6
<b>Humphreys</b>	7.2	7.8	8.6	10.2	11.6	8.8
<b>Issaquena</b>	7.0	8.0	7.5	11.3	10.1	14.7
<b>Itawamba</b>	5.4	5.3	4.7	4.7	4.7	5.2
<b>Jackson</b>	3.9	5.5	6.0	5.6	4.7	3.8
<b>Jasper</b>	6.6	5.1	7.5	4.8	5.0	4.8
<b>Jefferson</b>	20.5	18.7	17.6	18.3	19.5	20.0
<b>Jeff Davis</b>	12.1	11.8	10.8	10.3	16.0	24.5
<b>Jones</b>	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.3	3.5	3.4

*Five Year Comparison of Unemployment Rates*  
As of August  
2004

Area	Current month August 2004	ONE Year Ago August 2003	TWO Years Ago August 2002	THREE Years Ago August 2001	FOUR Years Ago August2000	FIVE Years Ago August1999
Kemper	8.0	8.8	8.9	6.5	8.0	12.0
Lafayette	4.2	4.9	3.6	2.6	2.9	2.5
Lamar	3.2	3.2	3.3	2.4	3.1	2.6
Lauderdale	6.1	6.4	5.9	5.1	6.1	5.8
Lawrence	7.0	7.8	8.3	8.0	11.7	10.0
Leake	6.1	5.0	5.6	6.3	6.4	6.0
Lee	5.5	6.2	6.0	5.0	4.6	4.5
Leflore	9.1	11.7	9.4	11.3	10.3	8.2
Lincoln	5.6	5.4	7.4	4.7	5.9	5.2
Lowndes	7.1	8.8	8.6	7.3	6.1	6.1
Madison	4.0	3.4	4.0	3.1	3.7	3.4
Marion	6.3	5.9	4.9	5.2	6.8	6.1
Marshall	9.3	12.0	9.6	8.3	6.4	6.6
Monroe	10.0	11.2	10.5	12.1	11.1	8.2
Montgomery	6.8	8.9	13.6	8.1	6.8	6.6
Neshoba	5.2	4.0	5.7	4.3	4.3	4.5
Newton	4.7	4.7	6.2	6.1	5.3	6.6
Noxubee	13.9	11.3	13.2	8.4	9.5	9.9
Oktibbeha	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.1	3.5	2.5
Panola	11.5	11.9	11.2	10.1	11.3	9.1
Pearl River	3.9	3.9	4.4	3.7	4.8	4.4
Perry	10.0	9.9	9.3	6.8	11.7	8.5
Pike	6.3	6.3	7.2	6.3	6.7	5.8
Pontotoc	4.0	4.7	4.7	5.8	3.9	3.0
Prentiss	8.2	6.1	4.4	4.1	4.5	5.7
Quitman	14.2	12.5	10.6	12.6	11.0	9.3
Rankin	2.7	3.0	3.1	2.4	2.5	2.3
Scott	5.2	5.8	6.2	5.0	4.6	3.6
Sharkey	12.2	9.6	10.5	8.2	10.3	13.4
Simpson	4.0	5.0	5.0	3.9	4.5	5.7
Smith	4.2	4.0	5.5	5.7	5.4	3.3
Stone	6.4	6.9	5.7	5.7	8.0	5.8
Sunflower	8.7	9.2	11.2	15.0	10.6	10.2
Tallahatchie	12.2	14.0	9.5	10.6	9.4	7.9
Tate	6.6	7.1	5.9	4.8	5.8	7.7
Tippah	6.9	8.7	8.0	6.4	4.9	4.8
Tishomingo	6.7	8.0	8.3	6.9	7.8	8.3
Tunica	8.0	10.7	4.6	4.7	5.4	5.1
Union	4.6	4.8	6.0	3.9	3.7	3.1
Walthall	7.6	7.9	10.1	6.7	11.0	6.9
Warren	5.6	5.5	6.2	3.7	5.1	4.6
Washington	11.5	10.3	11.4	11.3	10.1	9.5
Wayne	6.6	7.4	9.8	5.9	7.4	6.1
Webster	9.0	13.1	25.7	9.3	4.5	4.6
Wilkinson	9.9	11.0	10.6	10.2	11.5	15.1
Winston	8.5	8.9	11.0	12.3	10.2	6.6
Yalobusha	10.4	11.5	6.8	7.0	5.3	7.3
Yazoo	11.7	10.4	7.6	7.7	8.8	8.6

*Five Year Comparison of Unemployment Rates*  
As of August  
2004

Area	Current month August 2004	ONE Year Ago August 2003	TWO Years Ago August 2002	THREE Years Ago August 2001	FOUR Years Ago August2000	FIVE Years Ago August1999
<b>Workforce Investment Areas</b>						
Delta	10.2	10.5	10.7	10.6	10.3	9.4
Miss Partnership	6.2	6.9	7.0	6.0	5.4	5.1
Southcentral MS	5.1	5.3	5.5	4.3	5.3	5.1
Twin Districts	4.9	5.2	5.8	4.7	5.2	4.8
<b>Planning and Development Districts</b>						
Central Miss.	4.6	4.5	4.8	3.7	4.6	4.3
East Central	5.7	5.6	7.2	5.5	5.9	5.6
Golden Triangle	7.4	8.4	9.7	7.3	6.4	5.7
North Central	8.5	9.9	9.2	9.7	10.0	9.5
North Delta	6.4	6.7	6.0	5.2	5.7	5.2
Northeast	7.7	8.5	8.1	6.3	5.7	6.2
South Delta	9.8	9.3	11.3	10.8	9.7	9.2
Southern	4.6	5.1	5.4	4.4	5.0	4.5
Southwest	7.6	8.5	8.3	6.9	8.1	8.0
Three Rivers	6.1	6.7	6.6	6.6	5.3	4.6
<b>Community College Districts</b>						
Copiah-Lincoln	7.0	7.9	7.7	6.4	7.6	8.4
East Central	5.7	5.3	6.5	6.2	5.8	5.2
East Miss.	6.8	7.4	7.4	6.0	6.1	6.0
Gulf Coast	4.3	5.2	5.5	4.7	4.9	4.1
Hinds-Utica	4.4	4.4	4.8	3.6	4.5	4.1
Holmes	6.6	6.9	7.9	6.5	7.2	6.9
Itawamba	6.6	7.2	7.0	7.4	5.9	5.2
Jones	5.3	5.5	7.3	5.1	6.0	5.1
Miss. Delta	9.8	9.8	10.9	10.7	9.8	8.9
Northeast	6.5	6.7	6.7	5.3	5.0	5.4
Northwest	6.2	7.0	6.1	5.2	5.1	4.8
Pearl River	4.7	4.6	5.1	3.9	5.0	5.0
Southwest	6.7	7.2	7.7	6.6	7.6	6.8
<b>Cities</b>						
Biloxi	4.9	4.7	5.8	4.4	4.4	4.4
Clinton	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.1	2.5	2.3
Columbus	11.9	14.1	14.0	11.1	9.2	9.3
Greenville	11.5	10.3	11.6	10.9	10.1	9.3
Gulfport	4.2	4.5	4.9	3.5	5.5	4.1
Hattiesburg	6.2	6.1	7.4	5.0	5.5	4.6
Hattiesburg 1/	6.7	6.7	7.9	5.4	5.5	4.5
Hattiesburg 2/	2.8	3.1	4.8	2.5	6.0	6.2
Jackson	5.4	5.3	5.8	4.6	5.7	5.2
Meridian	7.4	8.0	6.8	6.1	6.7	6.3
Moss Point	7.6	10.5	11.4	10.7	9.1	7.4
Pascagoula	4.0	6.4	6.5	6.5	5.5	5.1
Pearl	2.1	2.3	2.4	1.8	1.9	1.8
Southaven	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.1
Tupelo	5.1	5.6	5.4	4.4	3.8	3.3
Vicksburg	7.0	7.3	8.2	4.8	6.4	5.4

Hattiesburg 1/ - Forrest County part

Hattiesburg 2/ - Lamar County part

## **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS**

**Central Mississippi** – Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo Counties

**East Central Mississippi** – Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, and Smith Counties

**Golden Triangle** – Choctaw, Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster, and Winston Counties

**North Central Mississippi** – Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Leflore, Montgomery, and Yalobusha Counties

**North Delta** – Coahoma, DeSoto, Panola, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Tate and Tunica Counties

**Northeast Mississippi** – Alcorn, Benton, Marshall, Prentiss, Tippah, and Tishomingo Counties

**South Delta** – Bolivar, Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey, Sunflower, and Washington Counties

**Southern Mississippi** – Covington, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jeff Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Stone, and Wayne Counties

**Southwest Mississippi** – Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Walthall, and Wilkinson Counties

**Three Rivers** – Calhoun, Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Monroe, Pontotoc, and Union Counties

## **WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREAS**

**Delta** – Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tunica, and Washington Counties

**Mississippi Partnership** – Alcorn, Attala, Benton, Calhoun, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, DeSoto, Grenada, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Lowndes, Marshall, Monroe, Montgomery, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tate, Tippah, Tishomingo, Union, Webster, Winston, and Yalobusha Counties

**Southcentral Mississippi Works** – Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Copiah, Franklin, Hinds, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Madison, Pike, Rankin, Simpson, Walthall, Warren, Wilkinson, and Yazoo Counties

**Twin Districts** – Clarke, Covington, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jasper, Jeff Davis, Jones, Kemper, Lamar, Lauderdale, Leake, Marion, Neshoba, Newton, Pearl River, Perry, Scott, Smith, Stone and Wayne Counties



## **COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICTS**

**Copiah-Lincoln** – Adams, Copiah, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, and Simpson Counties

**East Central** – Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, and Winston Counties

**East Mississippi and Meridian** – Clay, Kemper, Lauderdale, Lowndes, Noxubee, and Oktibbeha Counties

**Gulf Coast** – George, Harrison, Jackson, and Stone Counties

**Hinds-Utica** – Claiborne, Hinds, Rankin, and Warren Counties

**Holmes** – Attala, Carroll, Choctaw, Grenada, Holmes, Madison, Montgomery, Webster, and Yazoo Counties

**Itawamba** – Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe, and Pontotoc Counties

**Jones** – Clarke, Covington, Greene, Jasper, Jones, Perry, Smith and Wayne Counties

**Mississippi Delta-Coahoma** – Bolivar, Coahoma, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Sharkey, Sunflower, and Washington Counties

**Northeast** – Alcorn, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo and Union Counties

**Northwest** – Benton, Calhoun, DeSoto, Lafayette, Marshall, Panola, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, and Yalobusha Counties

**Pearl River** – Forrest, Hancock, Jeff Davis, Lamar, Marion, and Pearl River Counties

**Southwest** – Amite, Pike, Walthall, and Wilkinson Counties

## **METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS**

**Biloxi Gulfport Pascagoula MSA** – Hancock, Harrison and Jackson Counties

**Hattiesburg MSA** – Forrest and Lamar Counties

**Jackson MSA** – Hinds, Madison and Rankin Counties

## DESCRIPTION OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CALCULATION

### General summary of how the unemployment rate is calculated

- Monthly estimates of the labor force, employment, unemployment and the unemployment rate are generated by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program, a cooperative program between the Bureau of Labor Statistics and State Employment Security Agencies
- Statistics on the employment status of the population and related data are compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics using data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly survey of households conducted by the US Census Bureau. It is a scientifically selected survey designed to represent the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States
- Households selected are interviewed to obtain information about the employment status of each member of the household 16 years of age and older. The inquiry relates to employment activity or status during the calendar week, Sunday through Saturday, that includes the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month. This week is known as the reference week
- The survey is designed so that each person who is over the age of 16 and who is not in an institution such as prison or mental hospital or on active duty with the Armed Forces is only counted and classified in one group; employed, unemployed or not in the labor force
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines an individual employed if they did any work at all for pay or profit during the survey week, this includes all part-time and temporary work as well as full time year round employment. Unemployed individuals are those who do not have a job, have actively looked for work during the past four weeks and are currently available for work. The sum of employed and unemployed produces the Civilian Labor Force.
- Each month about 60,000 households are eligible to be interviewed nationally
- Households in the survey are rotated out of the survey in a manner to ensure that 75% of the households are consistent from one month to the next and 50% of the households are consistent from the same month of the prior year
- The results of the CPS survey are “**residence**” based; meaning the physical location of a person’s residence rather than the location of the establishment where they are employed
- Other statistics generated by the Mississippi Employment Security Commission Labor Market Information Department are “**establishment**” based, meaning the location of the establishment where they are employed
- Each month the MDES LMI Department processes information from the CPS, County continued claims (Unemployment Insurance claims that are paid), and monthly surveys of employment by county. These factors are used to estimate the employment, unemployment, labor force and resulting unemployment rate. A Statistical Model using historical trends and current amounts produces estimated amounts, which are reviewed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics before publication.
- Labor force statistics are presented as preliminary for the current month and revised for prior time periods, this results from additional data being collected after the amounts are originally published and occurs at the National, State, county and city level

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Civilian Labor Force** – That proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population that is employed or actively seeking employment. The labor force is the sum of the number of employed and unemployed.

**Civilian Noninstitutional Population** – Included are persons 16 years of age and older residing in the 50 states and the District of Columbia who are not inmates of institutions (for example, penal and mental facilities, homes for the aged), and who are not on active duty in the Armed Forces.

**Continued Claim** – A request for benefit payment or a notice filed to obtain credit for a waiting period week.

**Employed** – All persons who during the reference week, (a) did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of the family, and (b) all those who were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, childcare problems, maternity or paternity leave, labor-management dispute, job training or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off or were seeking other jobs. Persons are counted only once even if they hold multiple jobs.

**First Payment** – A payment issued to a claimant for his compensable week of unemployment in a benefit year

**Final Payment** – The last benefit payment a claimant receives in a benefit year because no further benefits are available until the beginning of a new benefit year

**Initial Claim** – A request for determination of insured status or a notice filed when a break in job attachment has occurred.

**Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)**– The general concept of an MSA is one of a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities that have a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus. These are defined by the Office of Management and Budget as a standard for Federal agencies in the preparation and publication of statistics relating to metropolitan areas

**Not seasonally adjusted** - This term is used to describe data series not subject to the seasonal adjustment process. In other words, the effects of regular, or seasonal, patterns have not been removed from these series.

**Reference Week** – the calendar week, Sunday through Saturday, which includes the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month.

**Seasonally Adjusted**– Monthly data that is adjusted (at the National level) to minimize the changes in any time series which result from normal annual occurrences such as holidays, vacations, harvests, and the opening and closing of schools. Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the statistics from month to month. Amounts are seasonally adjusted at the National and State levels only.

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Unemployed**– All persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed. Persons that are classified as unemployed have not necessarily filed or would be eligible for unemployment benefits.

**Unemployment Rate** – The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.



